

PIN

Unique ID: SOM-66CE77

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

Treasure case 2017 240: disclaimed, returned to finder

Description: A small silver-gilt dress-pin head with a short length of the pin. The silver head is hollow and spherical and decorated with silver wire filigree. A horizontal silver wire filigree band divides the head into two hemispheres, this is missing in places exposing the soldering below and the joint between the two hemispheres. Each hemisphere is decorated with three large filigree circles of twisted wire. Within each circle there are a further three twisted wire circles surrounding a pellet, one pellet missing on the lower hemisphere. In the spandrels, between the large circles and the central band, is a small twisted wire circle containing a pellet, there is a scar for a missing circle in one spandrel on the upper hemisphere and a pellet missing from one on the lower hemisphere. At the top there is a further larger pellet and at the bottom is a hole where the shaft of the silver probably drawn wire pin protrudes. Slight traces of gilding survive.

Dimensions: The head is 12.3mm in diameter and the fragment 14.4 mm long including the pin shaft, 11.1mm excluding it and weighs 3.25 grams.

Discussion: Dress pins with spherical heads decorated with filigree are frequently reported through the Treasure Act and are dated to the 16th century. This design with larger and smaller filigree circles and pellets is very popular. Comparisons include 2004 T159 (SUSS-52C0B2); 2014 T101 (NMGW-C845A3) and 2011 T641 (NCL-2BF5E1).

The fragment appears to consist of over 10% precious metal and be over 300 years old at the time of finding and as such qualifies as potential Treasure under the stipulations of the *Treasure Act 1996*.

Laura Burnett

Finds Liaison Officer for Somerset

June 2017

Subsequent actions

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder after being disclaimed as Treasure

Chronology

Broad period: POST MEDIEVAL

Period from: POST MEDIEVAL

Period to: POST MEDIEVAL

Date from: Circa AD 1500

Date to: Circa AD 1600

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1
Length: 14.4 mm
Weight: 3.25 g
Diameter: 12.3 mm

Discovery dates

Date(s) of discovery: Saturday 4th March 2017 - Saturday 4th March 2017

Personal details

This information is restricted for your access level.

Materials and construction

Primary material: Silver
Completeness: Fragment
Surface Treatment: Gilded

Spatial metadata

Region: [South West](#) (European Region)
County or Unitary authority: [Dorset](#) (County)
District: [West Dorset](#) (District)
To be known as: Frome St Quintin

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: From finder
Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 0.01 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Metal detector
General landuse: Cultivated land